

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

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[No. 244.]

### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

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#### Politics of Europe.

The *Dawk* of yesterday brought us our regular Files of London Papers to the 17th of May, by the *Rochester*, Captain Sutton, which sailed from Portsmouth on the 13th of that month. The List of her Passengers, and other Shipping details, will be found in the usual place.

The impossibility of including every thing that is interesting in single Number, imposes on us a great difficulty when we are compelled to select with reference to the space to which we are limited, rather than to the interest of the articles themselves. We have done our best, however, to include as much as possible of novelty and interest in the present Number, and shall go on with steady purpose in our future ones.

As an index of the principal topics contained in these Papers, we have taken the leading articles of the *Times*, from the 1st to the 17th of May inclusive, with miscellaneous paragraphs from the *Globe*, *Traveller*, *Chronicle*, *Sun*, *True Briton*, *Englishman*, *Scotsman*, and *Examiner*, for our first Sheets; all of May; and as the most interesting subject brought before Parliament, during this interval, is the motion of Sir Francis Burdett, for an enquiry into the Massacre at Manchester on the 16th of August 1819, we have selected for our Parliamentary Report, the first portion of this, which relates to the Petitions presented on the subject, and shall follow it up by the Debate to which it gave rise, in our Paper of to-morrow.

On occasions like the present, we must intreat the indulgence of Correspondents for the omission of Letters and other Communications, for a day or two at least; but we shall not lose sight of favors so essential to us.

Our Correspondents at Madras have sent us up by the *Rochester*, the Two Extras of the *Government Gazette* and *Courier* of that Presidency, printed during the short stay of that vessel in the Roads, and we give them here previous to our entering on the leading articles of the London Papers of May.

*Madras Government Gazette Extraordinary, Thursday Evening, August 30, 1821.*

The *Wellington* and *Grenville* Indiamen, were despatched from Gravesend, the 5th of May; but from the prevalence of Westerly winds, it is probable, they did not quit the Coast of England earlier than the *Rochester*: they may be daily expected.

We understand this ship brings no news of particular public importance—the following has been handed to us a Summary of the most interesting intelligence.

“The King was in good health, and early in May had attended the Opera, Drury-lane, and Covent Garden Theatres, at all of which he was received by the audience and populace with great respect and applause. It was confidently stated that his Majesty's visit to Ireland was postponed if not abandoned.

The Queen was also in good health—the whole of her arrangements are said to be under the controul of Lord and Lady Hood—and it is understood that she has given up her intention of retiring to the Continent—since the time these noble persons became attached to her Majesty's establishment, the Queen ap-

pears in some measure to have withdrawn herself from the parties who at one time considered themselves the principal supporters of her rights and interests—it is however generally believed, that the Queen, under the influence of her legal advisers, had officially applied to Lord Liverpool, demanding as her right, to be included in the Coronation.

Though the preparations at Westminster were continued, and a great expense incurred, it seems by no means certain that the Coronation will take place—the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo, was the day talked of by those who expected the solemnity to be observed.

The United Kingdom was in a state of tranquillity—the agricultural interests continued to be depressed—and commerce generally in a languid state.

The *George Home*, *Hope*, *Coldstream*, *Lord Hungerford*, *Ganges*, and *Rockingham* from India, arrived in England, in the end of April, and beginning of May—several of the Honorable Company's Ships had arrived from China.

By an extraordinary Courier advices were received in England, on the 8th May, that the Congress at Laybach was expected to break up shortly. It is said the two Emperors, and the King of Prussia, had agreed to bring their armies again into the field in any quarter, where affairs might seem to require their interference.—The refusal of France to admit foreign troops to pass through her territory, together with the independent and salutary sentiments, conveyed through our Ministers to the August Pacificators at Laybach are supposed to have had influence on them, in withholding the military assistance which was understood to be intended for His Catholic Majesty.

The Revolution, against the Turks, in Wallachia, Moldavia, and Bulgaria, seemed to prosper. Many Russians and other foreigners had joined the Standard, notwithstanding the edicts of their respective Sovereigns. The latest accounts from the Morea and the Southern Provinces of Greece, encourage a belief that a strong feeling existed among the Inhabitants to relieve themselves from that oppression, which has so materially contributed to reduce them, and their Country, from the most enlightened and cultivated state, to the extreme of degradation and wretchedness, involving the whole catalogue of human depravity and misery.

Of the internal state of Spain no accurate opinion can be formed—accounts are contradictory—little doubt however was entertained that an arrangement would be eventually made, between Columbia and the Mother Country, by the latter acknowledging in some measure the independence of the transatlantic subjects.

The King of Portugal was expected to return from the Brazils, which step would probably lead to a separation of his transatlantic possessions—and if he did not resort to that measure, it was hardly to be doubted that his power would cease in his European Dominions.”

The arrival of a Frigate at Ceylon, having Sir E. Paget on board, was hourly looked for, we understand. Accounts reached the Presidency by the *Cochin*, of the arrival of the two Brigs of War at Trincomalie from England—and were to sail for Madras immediately—the report of one of these (the *Satellite*, Captain Corry) is now before us—she left Trincomalie on Tuesday last, and England before the *Rochester*.

*Madras Courier Office, Thursday, August 30, 1821, 10 o'Clock, P. M.*

We have at length the pleasure to announce the arrival of a Ship from England. She is the *Rochester*, Captain Sutton, and left Portsmouth the 18th of May.

*Passengers for Madras.*—Mrs. Lawder, Mrs. Bird, Messrs. Lawder, Peel, and Glostana, Cadets.

The *William Miles* sailed from the Downs on the 22d of April for the Mauritius and Madras—Sir Charles Grey is not on board; but it is said he has taken his passage on board the *Woodford*, which is to sail in June. Sir Charles brings out his bride with him.

The Indiamen were dispatched on the 15th of May. All these Vessels may therefore be hourly looked for.

Ten outward bound Indiamen passed through the Downs on the 12th of May.

We have also to announce the arrival from England of H. M. Ships *Satellite* and *Sophia*.—They have anchored in Madras Roads on the 30th—the former left Portsmouth on the 22d of April—the latter in March. Both Ships are understood to have Packets for this Presidency.

Three small Packets have this moment reached the Post Office. We have received Papers and Letters to the 16th of May.

The *Anna Robertson*, *Thomas Grenville*, and *Orient*, were spoken at sea by the *Rochester*.

The free trader *Hope* was in the Downs on the 12th of May.—It will be remembered she sailed from Cuddalore on the 24th of January—she had therefore a beautiful run of little more than fourteen weeks.

The Editors of the notorious London "*John Bull*" have been committed to Newgate for a libel on the Honorable Grey Bennet.

A new Stock Exchange *hoax* had taken place.

His Majesty had again visited Covent Garden and Drury-Lane Theatres.

The period of Sir Francis Burdett's confinement had terminated. On resuming his seat in the House, the worthy Baronet renewed his motion on the subject of the Manchester massacre. It was of course lost.

Tranquillity prevailed in England, but it is with deep regret we state that Commerce continued in the most deplorable state of depression.

The new Governor of Ceylon, Sir E. Pagett, is coming out immediately in the Glasgow Frigate.

#### *Leading Articles of the Times.*

London, May 1, 1821.—The Paris Journals of Friday last have arrived; but we have not been able to extract from them any political matter of much importance. The *Moniteur* contains a decree of the King of France, relaxing in some respects the operation of the ordinance of the 26th July, 1820, by which certain additional tonnage duties were imposed on vessels of the United States entering French harbours. At the same time the second article of the former ordinance is annulled. The remaining columns of the official paper are occupied with speeches in the Chamber of Deputies, which are void of all interest and animation. The *Journal des Debats* quotes an article from the *Austrian Observer*, the apparent purpose of which is to announce that the secret springs and central movements of all the revolutionary plots which have disturbed the tranquillity of despotic Sovereigns are at length discovered, and in hands which are likely to expose them. It may be found, perhaps, that the springs of most conspiracies are at no great distance from those of the government itself, by which they are provoked and supplied with willing partisans. General Pepe appears, by a Madrid paragraph in the *Constitutionnel*, to have arrived at Barcelona with several officers: he was expected at Madrid. The law against traitors had not, on the 18th ult., received the royal assent. We are told from Augsburg that the advanced guard of the Russian army had arrived on the 13th at Czatzka. The whole force is estimated

at 100,000 men, of which 15,000 are cavalry. No light is thrown by these papers on the important question whether or not an arrangement has been actually made for their passage through the French territory to the Pyrenees.

London, May 2.—Lord John Russell's motion, for giving the elective franchise to large towns, is fixed for the 9th, and not the 16th of May. We suppose there is little doubt how this question will be disposed of in the house, and as little how it would be disposed of out of it. Allowing, however, the pre-eminent wisdom of Parliament, it seems a strange kind of logic to say "we are better and wiser, and our body will be more beneficially constituted, the fewer they are who elect and constitute us." At present we are sent by so many people to represent the whole; but if a greater number were to be allowed to assume the constituent function, we should be less pure, or a more corrupt body would be substituted in our place." If this reasoning were true, we should be glad to know in what powers, natural or acquired, those who now send members to parliament by prescriptive abuse, are superior to those who would send them under a more equal extension of the elective franchise?—in what it is that one or two men, remarkable for no one virtue or talent, excel a community of their compeers? But if the quality of the constituent body is not improved; why, it may be asked, increase the quantity? The answer is obvious—that an undue influence may be exercised upon a small quantity of any kind, which will lose its effect upon a larger one. However, as the optimists say that every thing which is, is best, let those who have no vote at present, acquiesce in the greater competence of those who have votes, to choose or appoint members both for themselves and others.

London, May 3, 1821.—The French papers of Saturday and Sunday, which reached us by express on Tuesday night, and from which we made extracts in our last publication, arrived yesterday in their regular course. Their contents call for little comment. Two short paragraphs may be quoted over again, for the tranquillizing assurances which they seem to hold forth to us with regard to the designs and opinions of the great people congregated at Laybach, their designs towards the rest of the world, and their opinions as to the power which they exercise over it. "It appears that the Allied Powers are determined to do their utmost in order that this Congress may be the last. They imagine that it will be easy for them to repress for ever the agitators of Europe!" Also—"A great European Congress, it is reported, is to be assembled in a short time in our capital, in order to fix in a stable and irrevocable manner, all the principles upon which the rights of the great European family are to be founded. They say that Austria and Russia have agreed to offer to the Sublime Porte their armed intervention to re-establish tranquillity and order in her disturbed provinces: the fact is, that Austrian and Russian troops are marching to the frontiers of Turkey." Now here we have a clear indication of the objects for which the late Congresses have been assembled, and for which one other, being the last, is about to sit in the Austrian capital. These objects are, "to repress agitators for ever," and "to fix in a stable manner, all the principles upon which the rights of the great European family are to be founded." These are, doubtless legitimate and worthy ends; and the means by which it is purposed to accomplish them are, we trust, no less deserving approbation. We may remark, however, that, while the ends are avowed, the means are only to be inferred from our own past experience, or from dark and indirect admissions on behalf of these august Undertakers for the peace and principles of Europe. There are two ways of repressing agitation—one is to remove or mitigate the cause; the other to drive back the symptoms. When the Allied Sovereigns talk, therefore, of its being "easy for them" to repress the agitators of Europe for ever, or (what is their more probable meaning) for a length of time, they assume one of two things—that it is easy for them to coerce the expression of public sentiment for years to come; or that it is in their power, by a full and satisfactory redress of grievances everywhere, to extinguish the subject matter of sedition, and thus to throw the agitators out of work. We would fain hope that this was the ground on which the effectual settlement of Europe appeared to the



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writers of the Allied Cabinets a task so very easy to be accomplished. We should not the less applaud the benevolence of such an undertaking; because, to us it seems only a few degrees more practicable than that of succeeding by pure force. But, in fact, he is an injudicious friend to civil liberty or to social happiness, who pronounces that either can be arrived at in an instant, by some sudden burst out of the trammels of vice, wretchedness, and bondage, or can at the least be enjoyed in perfect and serene security. Legislators with the most upright views, and the most unresisted power, must leave their human labours incomplete; so that grievances, and sufferings, and discontents, and dupes, and disturbers of the peace of society, will exist if all systematic tyranny were banished from the world; and the failure of conciliatory methods to make every man virtuous and every subject satisfied, affords no justification of a recourse to violence, on pretence of having tried more lenient remedies in vain. But we fear there may be reasons for suspecting that coercion is meditated at the present season—not so much from a practised disappointment in the use of more persuasive means for the repressing of agitators throughout Europe, as from a preliminary and untried assumption that such gentle anodynes would be wholly fruitless. We are not aware that in Italy, north or south, any correction of abuses has been so much as promised—nor in Germany, though promised, that it has ever been begun—nor that in Spain or Portugal, where, actually attempted, it has yet been tolerated or forgiven by the “repressors” of public agitation. But when, in the same paragraph which gives us to understand that the Sovereigns are about to fix “irrevocable principles” for the basis of the political system of Europe, it is stated that, as a specimen of those principles, they have resolved to maintain those of the *Turkish* government! in opposition to the efforts of its Christian subjects to withdraw themselves from its intolerable yoke, we need dwell no further on the instruments by which it is proposed to perpetuate the peace of the “Great European family,” than to express the conviction of every rational man, that they are calculated to render entirely unattainable a good which, in its own nature, is most difficult and uncertain. Our private intelligence is worthy of attention, and, in one respect, of high interest. Our readers will see that, by advices from St. Petersburg, the fact is confirmed of the Russian Army having been commanded to halt.

London, May 4, 1821.—With unfeigned regret, we learn from the French Journals, that a considerable tendency to agitation and disturbance prevails throughout some districts of the northern provinces of Spain. A letter from Irun (but of its authenticity we know nothing) goes so far as to say, that an engagement has taken place between a corps of guerillas, with an ecclesiastic for their leader, and a party of the national guard of Vittoria, which ended in the capture of the whole guard, four men only excepted. In consequence of this event, the Political Chief of Tolosa ordered the all militia of the three Biscayan provinces to assemble and march against the rebels. The band above mentioned, had appeared at Salvatierra, four leagues from Vittoria, and effaced the inscription on the constitutional pillar, amidst cries of “Long live the *absolute Monarch* and religion.” It is not stated what religion these fanatics are thus anxious to proclaim—whether Mahometanism, which has established the most “absolute” of monarchies, or the rational and reflecting faith of Christ, which inculcates respect for the rights of all mankind, and denounces every act of oppression, persecution, and injustice. Be this as it will, the cry which associates itself with that of open despotism, can never spread far amongst a people who have once tasted the sweets of practical liberty, or of equal law. The Spanish ecclesiastics, rendered altogether desperate by the peaceful and successful progress of a constitution, which would deprive them of a portion of their vast temporal possessions, must be expected to make vigorous efforts for its overthrow. We have had this expectation all along; and have frequently put it on record. They may employ their yet remaining wealth in raising forces for the recovery of what they have been bound by law to surrender. Bands of smugglers, or other adventurers, may accept their bribes. Many old retainers of the dissatisfied nobi-

lity may join them. We do not deny that commotions may be thus excited—that much violence may be exercised, much blood be shed, and many of the tragical occurrences incident to a state of civil, though we trust in Providence transient, warfare, be endangered. Foreign Powers also may be so criminal, or so mistaken, as to aid, by money or by their secret countenance, the production of these cruel mischiefs, for the sake of a new argument against all attempts at reform as visionary, and all resistance to power, however criminal, as in itself a crime: but, unless the great body of the Spanish people can be so duped or so purchased, it will be vain for the partial interests of Church or Nobles to oppose for a long season the steady bias of a nation so constituted as the Spaniards. One thing only can raise in the bosom of Spain a really formidable sentiment of hostility to the existing Constitution—we mean the abuses and mal-administration which have been too much tolerated, and are, we apprehend, too prevalent amongst some of its own functionaries. A letter, which we publish from a person of high respectability at Barcelona, discloses a scene of unworthy tyranny, arising from motives of mean subserviency to the violence of the lowest rabble of that city, which would naturally estrange many honest men from a system which permits such injustice. One of the sufferers from Villa Campa's conduct was a British subject who had given him no political provocation, yet who, in conjunction with several other officers, appears to have been treated by this constitutional governor in a way which, under the old monarchy, would have been fitly quoted as characteristic of despotism in its ugliest form. Acts and actors such as those alluded to by our correspondent, are excrescences upon a great national good, and which will lead to their own correction. But, whatever happens in Spain, let it be well remembered, that the British government cannot now turn round and abuse the constitution of that country. They stand pledged to its approval. Lord Liverpool took occasion to contrast that constitution in its origin and character with those which he condemned in Italy, as one which the Spaniards were justified in extorting, since they had failed in requesting, from their ill-advised Monarch. On that point, therefore, our Ministers are pinned. We had written just so far, when we received Madrid papers of the 19th ultimo, and further private letters on the affairs of the Spanish Peninsula. From these papers, it appears; that Merino was surrounded with his whole band in the province of Burgos, and had left no means of escape. The mail from the north to the capital had been intercepted by them between Madrigalejo and Lerma. Madrid accounts of the 19th, speak of the dissatisfaction produced by the acquittal of a valet de chambre of the King, who had been accused of conspiracy against the established constitution; and an allusion is also made to the absence of Ferdinand from a public ceremony at which the Sovereign's personal presence is matter of yearly etiquette; ascribing his non-attendance to some cause enveloped in mystery, but productive of alarm.

London, May 7, 1821.—The Spanish Journals, which we have received to the 22d ultimo, are more occupied in describing the consequences of the public apprehension, now so prevalent throughout the Peninsula, than in explaining its causes; for, in so far as the fears of the Spaniards for the safety of their constitution can be traced to any facts known to have taken place within their own territory, it is certain that none such have yet transpired, of a nature to warrant the uneasiness which is felt, or the measures which have in various great cities and districts been resorted to. As for events beyond the Pyrenees—the disasters which have occurred at Naples, to a cause assuming to be that of freedom, cannot reasonably affect the character or hopes of any people but the wretched Neapolitans themselves; least of all can such contingencies impair the noble confidence or reputation of the Spaniards, who have not served their country with puerile boastings, but with manly deeds, and who pushed on to victory amidst dangers and obstructions, appalling to all but their own unconquered spirits. The march of a Russian army perhaps may have led the Spaniards to anticipate for it a nearer object than that to which it was avowedly destined. If so, and if they

have not already procured through any Spanish Minister a satisfactory assurance that this northern irruption was unconnected with the interests or politics of Spain, we would refer them to the proceedings of the British House of Commons on Friday last, when our Minister for Foreign Affairs threw his "twilight grey," upon the question of why and with what intention 100,000 Russians were moving towards the south of Europe. Lord Londonderry said, "or seemed to say," with regard to the advance of the Russian troops towards Italy—1st, that they were called for by the united voices of the Emperor of Austria and the Sardinian Monarch; 2d, that their movement had no reference whatever to Spain; or, in other words, that they were not going to make war upon the Spaniards; and, 3dly, that the Piedmontese revolution having been put down, the further march of the Russians would be, or had been, countermanded. For obvious reasons we do not pledge ourselves to this construction of the words of the noble Secretary. Between the circumlocutory forms of language permitted by Parliament and those prescribed by office, the negative admonitions and affirmative interrogations and the diverse modes of smooth and slippery irony adopted by the minister on this occasion, there is no guarantee for what we may arrive at after opening out his numberless involutions; or whether, if the papyrus should be ever so successfully unrolled, the hieroglyphics may at last be translatable. In the meantime denunciations and arrests of suspicious persons continue in many parts of Spain. At Seville six individuals, principally ecclesiastics, were taken up, and ordered to depart the city; at Oviedo the same expedient was had recourse to, and repeated at Malaga and Granada. The national militia of Alava were called out to surround and destroy one Pinedo and a small band of followers. Mention is not yet made of any movement deserving the name of a military operation throughout Spain.

London, May 8, 1821.—We insert the following statement, which is supposed to rest on official authority:—

"Advices were received yesterday from Laybach, by an extraordinary courier, stating that orders had been issued to suspend all further movements, both of the Russian and Austrian armies. The Allied Sovereigns, it is added, now consider that the objects for which those armaments were assembled are accomplished. They mean, however, before the dissolution of Congress, to enter into a treaty, to bring those armies again into the field, should any causes of a similar nature require such another interference. The Congress will then break up, and both Emperors will pass a short period at Vienna, and assist at the celebration of the rejoicings for the successes of the movements against Naples and Piedmont."

So far then as the above document is of any value, the public may be satisfied that neither Russians nor Austrians are marching at present towards the Spanish frontier. This is fortunate, in the first place, for the Spaniards, who will naturally find themselves relieved in part from the pressure of apprehension and mutual animosity, occasioned by the belief that a foreign invasion was approaching them, and that it was likely to derive assistance from domestic intrigue and treachery. The plans of the disaffected Spaniards being thus undermined, and their hopes of an immediate convulsion enfeebled, the attention of the Cortes may, perhaps, be more exclusively directed to an improvement both in the laws and in the administration of the Government. One great source of alarm for a people just emerging from habitual bondage, is the want of time to consolidate its free institutions, before some foreign or internal enemy shall assail it. When the mere suspicions, therefore, that the fate experienced by the Neapolitans was actually impending over the Spanish nation, and about to be inflicted upon them by the same hands, had been sufficient to ripen all the latent seeds of strife and vengeance into full activity throughout a great number of Spanish provinces, swelling troops of banditti into anti-constitutional battalions, and degrading magistrates and military governors into the mere tools of a capricious mob; when such, we say, was the state of many parts of the peninsula, and when it was understood to have been

called forth by no other circumstance than the prospect of a visitation from the north of Europe, akin to that of which Italy has just become the victim, we may surely hope that the measure now promulgated on authority, viz. the stoppage of the whole apparatus of invasion, may have the effect of either instantly restoring domestic peace in Spain, or arming the constitution with such strength and hardihood as will divest a civil war of its most formidable terrors. But there is a second class of benefits resulting from the renunciation by the Allied Emperors of all schemes of direct violence against Spanish liberty; we mean those which must accrue to these Monarchs themselves, and to their invading armies. It is not a very bold opinion to hazard, that the armies which crossed the Pyrenees would have been much endangered, if not more probably lost, to a man; and as the authority of a government not limited by law has nothing but pure force to sustain it, who, in the present state of Europe, can calculate the recoil of a disastrous aggression upon such an authority as that of the Russian or Austrian Emperor? It is fortunate then for the Spaniards, in the first instance, with a view to the duration and extent of their struggles, and in the second, for those whom they had presumed to be their invaders, that the former are to be left undisturbed. We are not clear, however, to what degree the remaining parts of Europe, or the cause of rational liberty itself, may have immediate reason to rejoice at such an abandonment or such a renunciation of the project. The triumph of Spain over Buonaparte's power was the signal for that of all other nations. Her victory, slow perhaps and difficult, though we think a sure one, over a German or Russian persecutor, might have proved a no less encouraging omen for those among the people of Europe who still, in spite of Buonaparte's overthrow, feel the weight of prerogatives usurped or abused. The forcible subjugation of Italy would have been less disastrous than its tame submission. A trial of strength, and a reverse in Spain, might have proved a salutary counterpoise. As it now stands, however, the Allied Sovereigns, we see, are on the point of framing a fresh treaty, by which they bind themselves to bring new armies into the field, should "similar causes" (to those which have arisen in Italy) "occur to require such interference:" and does no similar cause exist? What is this same Spanish constitution but a standing, an inviting, a provoking cause—one which Russia has solemnly pledged herself to consider as a heinous crime, and one of most perilous and fatal example? Coupled with the march (now relinquished) of her troops towards Italy, we insist that the state paper published by Russia some months ago, wherein she reprobated the Spanish constitution, as the head and front of all revolutionary offences, was an express obligation, in the face of the whole world, to put down the Spanish Cortes, its institutes and ordinances, to restore the plenitude of the Royal Authority, provided she should be competent to the task. Her failure to perform it is a plain confession of imbecility. What, then, can be the scope of her new engagement with Austria? Why—if she be consistent with herself—to bring her armies forward where there is no resistance to be looked for; and, otherwise, to keep them quiet;—to respect the powerful; but to chastise the weak, for the same political transgressions which the strong may commit with impunity. Are the advisers or friends of the Allied Sovereigns prepared to follow out such a system in its remoter consequences? Have those men who abuse the good sense and good feeling of such a Prince as the Emperor Alexander, ever hinted to him the necessary result of ingrafting upon the law of nations the horrible maxim that might makes right? If the will of a man, who is at this moment powerful, is to be held as law to others, an accession of superior strength, to any other man makes him the lawgiver of to-morrow. No alliance, no federation, no compact, no community, can exist in the teeth of such a principle as this.

We observe by the proceedings of yesterday in the House of Commons, that Lord Londonderry has confirmed in a full and distinct manner the fact of the Russians having halted, and the still more important one, perhaps, (although we were less anxious on that point than our neighbours) that no design existed of marching an army across the Pyrenees.



# MISCELLANEOUS.

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## Latest Papers.

The Three following Articles—on the **ILLEGALITY OF SUMMARY PUNISHMENT WITHOUT TRIAL**;—the **Brief Report of the Case of LIBEL IN INDIA**;—and the **CIRCULAR TO THE EDITORS OF PAPERS, FROM THE CENSORS OF THE PRESS IN FRANCE**, are all printed in the *Times* of May 14, 1821; and deserve being read attentively, and connectedly by the Advocates of certain anti-British, and anti-Constitutional doctrines here.

*Leading Articles of the Times continued.*

London, May 14, 1821.—The exercise of the power of commitment by the House of Commons always gives occasion to an extremely unpleasant feeling out of the House and through the country. Nothing can sound softer in men's ears, or look prettier upon paper, than such expressions as these:—that the "privileges of the house are the privileges of the people;" "that they are for the good of the people;" "that the law of Parliament is the law of the land;" and various other apophthegms of similar moment. That the privilege of the House is in one sense the privilege of the people, we will readily acknowledge: the House has the privilege of making laws for the people; and if it performs this its most important duty without obstruction, it seems to have all that is necessary for its functions: for be it observed, that if certain members of the House of Commons were ever so scandalously vilified for giving their support to a Bill, still that Bill having received the subsequent sanction of the House, and of the Lords, and King, would be equally binding upon the subject, and be as much the law of the land as if every member of the House of Commons had been the object of the most ardent praise while the measure was under consideration. It is clear, therefore, that *obstruction* is the only thing which can prevent the House from exercising those functions for which the House of Commons exists as a part of the legislature; and that abuse or libels may be left to the courts of law without invalidating the work of legislation. This is a privilege which no one will contest is for the general good: but a privilege of imprisoning the people, without judge, jury, pleadings, counsel, or trial—it would be very difficult (whatever the fact may be) to persuade the people that this a privilege for their benefit or advantage. Let us look to the election of members, in cases where they are not nominated—in counties for example: does any voter think or consider, that in choosing his representative he confers upon that representative a power of sending him to prison without trial, by lodging a complaint before the other representatives? and that it is for the good of that voter and all the other voters of the kingdom, that he should be so sent to prison, if, in an unguarded moment, he vilifies the parliamentary conduct of one whom he had himself aided in sending into parliament? And if this privilege is revolting when exercised by members really elected, how much more painful is it when put into action by the mere nominees of peers or other borough-holders, in whose election the people have no concern? We know all the idle rant and declamation that is used upon this subject; as, "that if the House of Commons may not imprison thus summarily—if honourable members are to be slandered in the discharge of their duty, and the dilatory forms of the law are to intervene before the slanderer can be punished, there is an end of the House of Commons," &c.; but we never yet heard one argument advanced, or attempted to be advanced, in support of the privilege; the exercise of which, if it be practically necessary, is the more to be regretted, as it never implicates even the most criminal without diffusing a general feeling of terror. It is further asserted that this power of punishing without trial by jury is the law of Parliament, and the law of Parliament is the law of the land: but this practice (for no one now doubts the practice)—if this practice be the law of the land, we beg leave to ask what kind of law it is? Is it statute or common law? We know no other as applicable to the government of British subjects. It cannot certainly be common law, for it is not that of which the origin exceeds the tradition or memory of man. Judge Hale, in his standard history, says that the period from which our common law emanates, goes back no further than the reign of Richard I,

when the House of Commons did not exist, and therefore could have no such privilege: and if it is statute law, where, we ask, is the statute to be found? No such law ever passed King, Lords, and Commons.\* That the House of Commons may have by-laws for its own government, and for the regulation of its own proceedings; and that those by-laws, having received only the sanction of that one house, are binding upon its members, no one can doubt; but when this privilege or practice goes out of the walls of Parliament, and fetches in British subjects to be tried according to the rules of a body to which he does not belong; it drags him out of the ordinary walk and haunts of life, before a court, to which neither the common nor statute law of his country, but only the resolutions of that court itself, have rendered him amenable. He is not allowed to take his counsel into that court to support him; he is not allowed to view the charges against him before he pleads. He looks around in the hopes of seeing a jury of his peers to try him: there is no such body. His accusers are his judges, or are among them. He asks for a sight of the indictment: the accusation is oral only. He begs to cross-examine the witnesses against him: he is not even allowed to hear them give their evidence. Arguments are urged at which he is not present. He might apply to the King for a remission of the sentence. The Sovereign has still less right to be heard in this court than the subject. The debate closes, and he finds himself immured in a prison.

*Libel Law in India.*—Our readers are aware that, by the Marquis of Hastings, the censure which had for 20 years been imposed on the Press of India was removed. By the despatches received on Thursday (May 10,) it appeared that on the 23d of November, a motion was made in the Supreme Court of Bengal, by Mr. Spankie, the Advocate-General, for a rule to shew cause why a criminal information should not be filed against Mr. Buckingham, the Editor of *The Calcutta Journal*, for the publication of a "false, scandalous, and malicious libel, of and concerning the government of that country," in a letter on merit and interest, signed *Amutus*: the libellous matter of which consisted in stating, that all promotion, advancement, and reward were withheld even from merit, except by the pernicious means of political influence, or, as it is generally termed, "interest." A rule was granted. On the 26th, Mr. Fergusson prayed, on the part of the defendant, for an extension of the rule; first, on the plea that some doubt existed in his mind as to the jurisdiction of the Court, or its power to proceed by criminal information in cases of libel; and secondly, as to the necessity of collecting documentary evidence and materials for the defence, as he intended to argue both on the law and the fact; but more particularly to prove the absence of all criminal motive or intention on the part of his client. (Mr. Spankie objected to any extension of time on the ground urged by his learned friend. The jurisdiction of the Court was established in direct and express terms in the charter, by general usage, and by analogy with other colonial courts. The Chief Justice concurred with the Advocate General: Sir Francis Macnaghten seemed to think the question of jurisdiction might admit of argument. Sir Anthony Buller concurred with the Chief Justice. After some further argument by Mr. Fergusson for delay, and by Mr. Spankie and Mr. Money, the junior council for the prosecution, the rule to shew cause was extended to the first day of next term, which would happen on the 8th of January, and of which we have not yet had an account.

*Note in the Times of the following day.*

\* What is called the common law of the land, springs out of an early period of our history, the lowest boundary of which, according to Sir Mathew Hale, is the reign of Richard I. But in that reign the House of Commons did not exist: it is clear, therefore, that the House cannot claim the power of Punishing without Trial for what it calls breach of privilege, from the common law; and it is equally certain that there is no statute which confers the power. What right, then, can the House have to say of its own motion, We will assume and exercise this power, because it is necessary (as was said in the case of the ship-money for our support, and we are judges of the necessity?

*Censors in France.*—Paris, May 8.—Those notable persons, the Censors have been playing again one of their absurd farces. The trial of the conspiracy of the 19th of August (which, by the way, is likely to last two months) began yesterday morning in the House of Peers, and shortly afterwards the following circular order was sent to the responsible Editors of the periodical papers:

COMMISSION OF CENSURE.

"The responsible editors of periodical papers are informed, that the House of Peers being constituted a court of justice by the ordinance of the King relative to the rebellion (thus, by the way, giving a name to the plot which is not to be found even in the act of accusation) of the 19th of August, the report of the proceedings must be submitted to the previous examination of the Committee of Censure, in the same manner as any report of any affair before any ordinary tribunal."

It is to be hoped that the House of Peers will, from a sense of their own dignity, protest against this contemptible order of twelve scribblers of low farces (for such are our censors) who presume to exercise a jurisdiction over the highest tribunal in the kingdom, and threaten to expunge such parts of their proceedings as may happen to displease their high mightinesses.

You must have observed with what profusion the crosses of the Legion of Honour have been bestowed: among other new dignitaries are an actor, a manager of a low theatre, and a fellow who has been five times a bankrupt.

London, May 15, 1821.—Advices were received yesterday from Rio de Janeiro, dated March 10, which is five days later than the packet. It appears that the King, after a long deliberation, has abandoned his intention of returning to Portugal. On the 9th the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs had a long interview with the King; in the course of which he submitted to him various arguments to show the impolicy of quitting Brazil: and the same evening, at a council of ministers, the royal intention of remaining was announced.

For the first time since its commencement we take notice of *John Bull*. Of the ostensible authors of the publication we speak only with pity, or hardly speak at all. Neither should we have thought it worth our while to give more extensive notoriety to the obscenity and malignity of the publication, by reprehending it, if it had not been for the situation of those who have identified themselves with it, by defending or palliating its practices.

It is now pretty apparent who are the patrons of this *John Bull*,—a work set up expressly for the purpose of libelling the Queen, and those who visit her. Things being placed upon their right foundation, and it being certain that we are not attacking adversaries unworthy of ourselves, we shall soon see who shall triumph in this new conspiracy against her Majesty. We appeal to the nation as to the manner in which the Queen has lived since the close of the miserable investigation. *John Bull* was not set up till after the trial was ended; so that it is clear to demonstration that it was the intention of her Majesty's adversaries, after they were frustrated in their plot of ruining her by their judicial process, to commence a fresh persecution against her, alike horrible and unprovoked, and not to suffer her to be at rest. Good God! What has the Queen done since the trial was ended to call forth these fresh aggressions? The worst that her enemies could say of her—"We hear nothing of the Queen now." Wretches! were ye not sensible that this was the highest praise of the Royal sufferer? No, nor would you ever have heard any thing of her beyond that conversation which the interest attached to high station universally occasions, had it not been for the conspiracy which ye hatched, and the persecutions which ye carried on against her. However, you are determined that she shall no longer rest tranquil. Her few remaining days are still to be imbibtered. It must be our aim, therefore, that her persecutors, if they have no hearts to feel—no consciences to upbraid them—may at least be subjected to the pain and shame of general execration.

The readers of *John Bull* are probably like its authors: we shall therefore inform the world at large how the Queen of England is treated in a publication patronized as we have above hin-

ted. We have only to quote the expressions applied to her Majesty; they will excite more indignation than any paraphrase of ours. The Editor and Publisher were sent to Newgate on Friday last; and in Sunday's number, they or others writing in their persons, thus dare to speak of the Queen of England. They call her—her against whom no crime ever was, or can be proved, though a deserted wife—the MOST ABANDONED OF HER SEX!" they say, they "did justice to those unpretending females, who shuddered at the VICE AND PROFLIGACY OF THE QUEEN!" They threaten to expose all those ladies who are "bold enough to brave the CONTAMINATING ASSOCIATION WITH THE QUEEN?" And all this, after her Majesty has undergone the ordeal of such a trial as few of those who affect to shun her could bear; and after she is content to sit down in privacy and retirement, having first, however, fully affected her purpose of obtaining a home and a provision becoming her station, when her savage enemies wished to banish her from our shores, and send her forth a needy fugitive. We wish such expressions as those above cited may be circulated and made known throughout Europe, in order that the world may see what monsters are suffered to assail the Queen of ENGLAND, and with what reason and justice we advocated her cause. As to those females who visit her Majesty, we shall, for the present, observe generally, that they are ladies whose characters, notwithstanding the slanders attempted to be fastened upon them, will bear scrutiny; and that many of those who affect to shun her Majesty, do so because they know their reputations will not bear investigation. However, the practice of defaming the female character is begun. It is not likely that we should sully our columns with personal abuse; but there is no reason in the world why a publication as infamous on the other side as *John Bull*, should not be set up, in order to slander and report defamatory anecdotes of those women who haunt the Court, and affect to condemn the Queen. Undoubtedly, her Majesty's palace is not so crowded as Carlton-house, and that for a reason not very creditable to the higher ranks. They are birds of prey, and "where the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together." The King does not fancy that his loves are thronged from love to his person only, or veneration of his virtues. His Majesty knows too much of human nature to be thus duped. Had the position of himself and his Royal Consort been different—had she been Queen Regnant—had she possessed the distribution of place and power, and himself been simply her husband, labouring under her aversion—then, had her Majesty's vices been such even as her enemies would represent them, then we say would her court have been thronged in the same manner as the palaces in Pall-mall and the Park; and the few faithful friends or disinterested admirers who might have visited him in his retirement, would have been exposed to the same slanders as are now heaped upon those who attend upon their suffering Queen.

London, May 16, 1821.—*Brandenburgh-House*, May 15.—"Her Majesty has been pleased to dismiss from her service M. Carlo Forti, in consequence of her having no further need of his services, as she is now settled in England.

"Her Majesty has also given a Power of Attorney to Signor Joseph Marietti to sell her property in Italy."

Such, then, is the end of all the persecutions instituted against this illustrious female—that, while they have increased her contempt for the more profligate part of the country, they have only served to attach her still more to the sterling and virtuous part of the British community, and determined her to fix her residence among them. Though not without extreme suffering, yet in every thing she defeats and baffles her enemies; or rather their measures lead to their own frustration. If this last persecution of her Majesty—the persecution by abuse—has led to the determination above intimated, namely, that of continuing among us, a point which we know her mind was unsettled, the nation at large will be thankful for it; and we do trust that her Majesty will not suffer any hypocritical appearance of contrition on the part of her enemies—any hollow display of the ordinary civilities due to her station and sex, to melt her resolution and bend it to their will. She is English all over, and ought to live in England only.



Wednesday, September 12, 1821.

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*London, May 17, 1821.*—Two days ago we stated, on the authority of advices from Rio de Janeiro of the 10th of March, that the head of the house of Braganza, after a long deliberation with his Cabinet, had declared his resolution not to return to Portugal. We placed a firm reliance on that statement, because we had reason to believe that it was derived, not very remotely, from the information of one of the members of the Cabinet in which the declaration was made. Those, however, who are familiar with the politics of the Court of Brazil, well know the vacillation and uncertainty that precede the execution of any important measure, and they will not be surprised, though the public in general may, at the arrival of a decree issued by John VI, announcing his intention to proceed to Portugal. The date of the present intelligence from Rio de Janeiro is the 21st of March; and this important decree, of which a copy will be found annexed, is dated on the 7th of March, but was not issued till the 15th or 16th. In this instance, as in that of the revolution, the practice of antedating an official document has been resorted to, in order to save the King's credit. The private letters from Rio de Janeiro indicate great diversity of opinion concerning an event in which the welfare and future fate of the Brazils are justly considered to be deeply involved. Many, indeed, reasoning on the known want of decision in the Sovereign, regard it, notwithstanding the publication of the decree, in the same uncertain light as before, and were strengthened in that opinion by rumours of intelligence from Lisbon that the Cortes had decreed not to admit the King into Portugal until he had ratified all the articles of the new Constitution, assigning him Madeira as a residence, should he be found to have actually proceeded for Europe, until his determination on that subject should be made known. This fear is, however, removed by the act of adhesion sworn to on the 26th February, which ratifies all the acts of the Cortes unconditionally, whatever their nature. Up to the evening of the 20th the belief was so general among those classes of the community who are most deeply interested in the event, that the Royal decree would not be acted on, that addresses to the King, requesting him to remain, were preparing. Other letters found the objections to the King's quitting Brazil on the difficulty likely to arise of preserving the dependence of the different provinces in the absence of the Monarch. That of Bahia, in particular, was believed to have declared that the departure of the King would be the signal for a declaration of independence.

#### Miscellaneous Selections.

*Coronation.*—We lately noticed a report current in the west end of the town, that the Queen had sent a letter to the Earl of Liverpool, desiring to know the names of the ladies appointed to attend her Majesty at the ceremony of the ensuing Coronation; to which her Majesty had received no answer. We are now able to state, that whatever application has been made by her Majesty, has been sanctioned by legal advice, and that her Majesty has already received an official answer, which, although not satisfactory, has not altered her determination.—*Globe.*

*Travellers in Egypt.*—Accounts have been lately received from two gentlemen travelling in Egypt, Mr. Waddington, of Trinity-College, Cambridge, and Mr. Hanbury, of Jesus-College. These two gentlemen, availing themselves of the opportunity of attending the Pasha of Egypt, in a military expedition against some tribes of Arabs, have had the good fortune to see a part of the Nile's course, which it had not before been safe for any European traveller to visit. They have discovered one or two interesting islands, with about thirty entire pyramids of different sizes, and extensive ruins of temples, of unequal construction, but some of them exhibiting considerable skill, and others apparently of the highest antiquity. The public will learn more of this on the return of these gentlemen, which is shortly expected.—*Traveller.*

*France.*—The Paris Papers contain little of importance; they are principally filled with accounts of the theatrical representations and other public rejoicings in honour of the baptism of the infant Duke de Bordeaux. On Monday the King received the Deputies sent with addresses from the different towns,

and reviewed a numerous body of troops in the Champ de Mars, accompanied by the Duchess de Berri and d'Angouleme. The infant Prince was also on the ground, and the whole of the Royal Family were received with loud acclamations. On Tuesday his Majesty went in grand procession to the Cathedral of Notre Dame, where the ceremony of the baptism was performed by the Archbishop of Paris.—The congratulatory speeches and the royal answers are brief, and consist merely of expressions of gratitude to Divine Providence, and prayers for the future happiness of the Royal Infant. "Let us," says the King, "invoke for him the protection of the Mother of God, the Queen of the Angels; let us implore her to watch over her days, to remove far from his cradle the misfortunes with which it has pleased Providence to afflict his relatives, and to conduct him by a less rugged path than I have trod to eternal felicity." The Counts de Montesquieu and Blacas have been created Dukes; the Viscount de Chateaubriand has been appointed a *Ministre d'Etat*, and a Member of the Privy Council; and a promotion has taken place of a limited number of superior officers in the army.

The business of proscription has commenced in Piedmont. Twelve of the leaders in the revolt have been condemned to death, but they had before the arrival of the Royal army taken care to elude punishment by a retreat into Spain.

Letters have been received from Maranhão, announcing that the city and province had declared in favour of the Portuguese Cortes and Constitution, on the 6th of March, the same day on which Pernambucco made a similar declaration.—*Sen.*

*The King.*—It has been very currently rumoured, that information has arrived in town that his Majesty has it in contemplation to honor Glasgow with his presence in the course of his summer excursion.—*Glasgow Journal.*

*France.*—The Paris Papers are chiefly filled with details of the baptismal ceremony of the Duke de Bordeaux, which took place in the cathedral of Notre Dame on the preceding day. The King went in great pomp from the Tuileries, having in the carriage with him all the members of his immediate house, except the child who was the principal actor, and who, with the ladies in attendance on him, occupied the carriage next to that of his Majesty. The streets were lined with troops; and crowded as was the church with spectators, the members of the legislative body and of the municipal corps of Paris attended. The clergy harangued the King, and were answered by him: the Royal cortege was met and followed by loud applauses, and the day closed with magnificent fire-works, while the Palace gardens and public offices were brilliantly illuminated. The Papers all announce that they would not appear on the following day on account of the public festivities. These papers repeat, but it is mere repetition, the story of a bloody battle having taken place between the Greeks and Turks at Rudschuck, and in point of authenticity this intelligence remains as before.—*Times.*

*Russians.*—In the Dutch and German mail which arrived yesterday, it is stated in a positive manner that the regiments of the Imperial Guard of Russia have received orders to proceed to the frontiers, and that by the 25th ultimo, they must have reached Witepsk. There is likewise said to be a general movement of the Russian Army in the interior of the empire, from east to west. The troops which are advancing towards Italy will be replaced by others forming an army of reserve in Volhynia; and Count Witgenstein's force is to be considered a corps of observation on the Turkish frontier. These accounts are at entire variance with that which assured us that the Russian army moving towards Italy had received orders to halt.—*Times.*

*Greece.*—Intelligence of some interest relative to the contest between the Turks and the Greeks in the Morea has been received from Patras. From letters direct from that place, and from passages in the mercantile correspondence both from Trieste and Leghorn, it appears that a perfect understanding existed between the northern and southern provinces of Greece, and that a day was to be fixed by the leaders in the north for a general rising in the Morea against the Turks. Two messengers, charged with this important mission, arrived at Patras in the beginning of the

last month; and the leaders of the Greeks had determined, in consequence of the instructions communicated to them, that the Turks should be attacked on the 5th or 6th. By the treachery, however, of some individuals in the secret, their intentions became known to the Turks, whose force being inadequate to the resistance of an insurrectionary spirit in the whole population, they retired into the citadel and fortified themselves in that position. Gaining confidence from the apparent tranquillity of the town, they ventured out of their entrenchments, and committed some acts of aggression against the houses of those inhabitants who were suspected of acting a conspicuous part in the designs for the subversion of the Turkish power. Among these was the palace of the Bishop, which was set on fire and destroyed.—These outrages filled the Greeks with indignation: they collected in large numbers, and making a desperate onset on the Turks, drove them back with considerable loss into the citadel. In that situation the town continued when the accounts came away. The Turkish garrison were cannonading the town from the citadel: and as the Greeks were not in possession of any artillery, there was no prospect of their being able to make any impression on it before the arrival of reinforcements to the Turks should render all further resistance unavailing. The Bishop of Ephesus had taken the field at the head of a great body of Greeks, chiefly from Sparta and Maina.—The Pasha of the Morea, as was formerly stated, has stopped his march against Ali Pasha, in consequence of these events. There is no doubt of the sympathy felt by the inhabitants of the Ionian Islands in the Greek insurrection; and many will probably join the standard in the Morea, particularly from Zante; but it is not supposed that any hostile attack will be made on the British authority in the Seven Isles.—*Chronicle.*

*Express from St. Petersburg.*—A circumstance, not very usual now, occurred on Wednesday the 2d of May in the arrival of an express from St. Petersburg. The object of it appears to have been chiefly of a commercial nature, as it relates to the state of the exchange between this country and Russia. Of late, this has been a much more important subject than formerly, especially as it may be thought in some degree indicative of the intentions of the Emperor Alexander, with regard to the South of Europe. The exchange has recently suffered a very severe depression, being reduced to the rate of the 9d. the rouble.—Of course, a re-action appears to have been expected, and accordingly the express of Wednesday evening brought advices of its having risen to 9½. In addition to this fact, it is mentioned as one of the causes of the elevation, that the Russian armies destined for the South of Europe had received orders to halt, and that they had actually halted. The report was believed at St. Petersburg, and the positive manner in which it was stated in the express, induced many to give it credit in London, and to conclude, in consequence, that there was no truth in the statement, that the Sovereigns, who still continue at Laybach, had any designs upon Spain.—*Englishman.*

*New American Frigate.*—The following is an extract of a letter from a Gentleman in Baltimore.

"In my last I promised to give you some account of the new frigate building at Boston, which I have lately visited? I can now therefore describe with the accuracy of a personal inspector. There is nothing remarkable in her size, except in the prodigious and unwieldy strength of her sides and masts, and she ranks among the first class of American frigates, which are equal to British 64-gun ships. The main mast, which is now strongly hooped and clasped with iron, is of remarkable strength, and has attached to it the principal weight of the defensive machinery which renders her so formidable. She has three steam-engines on board: two are employed in propelling her in light winds and calms; and the third, of 60-horse power, is exclusively used for wielding the battering apparatus attached to the mainmast, &c. This consists first of a series of large iron bars or clubs moving perpendicularly on joints arranged about the centre of the ship, on each side of the mast, and when in action they are raised alternately, and, like as many gigantic hails, beat with tremendous and increasing force upon whatever object they are directed against. They are intended for close quarters, and

when they are made to descend upon an enemy's vessel, they must beat to pieces every thing they strike, men, rigging, and even decks of the enemy. By converting a perpendicular into a horizontal motion, one of them attached to the mizen mast is made to play in that direction, and as it is jointed and very long, it must make dreadful havoc among the men, being armed with lances, and jagged hooks calculated to cut or tear. In the event of its encountering a mast or standing post, its joints yield and set it free. An engine, something resembling the catapult of the ancients, is constructed on the starboard bow, of such amazing power, that it can throw large stones of 200 lbs. weight to the distance of two or 300 yards, when the whole force of the engine is employed. It is also calculated for discharging hot water, pitch, and melted lead. An apparatus is constructed likewise for setting the pitch on fire, which is discharged flaming on the enemy's vessel. The old practice of red-hot sand is likewise in preparation, and when scattered among the men must have a powerful effect. All this time, it must be observed, there are not a half a dozen men, on deck; two at the wheel are protected by a redoubt, two or three superintend the necessary movements of the catapult, and about three more at other parts of the vessel; the rest are working the great guns in the lower and middle deck, or attending the engines. The vulnerable parts are defended with double strength of timber, and, in some places, faced with steel. The decks are bomb proof, and it is pretty well ascertained, that, with the help of her steam paddles, she is impregnable, except by boarding; to defend against this, 100 crooked irons, and the like number of spears, at each side, are in readiness to be worked by machinery, which would in two minutes annihilate the crew of half a dozen large frigates; and besides this, as most of our men are not exposed on the deck, she can shower down melted pitch and hot sand on the boarders, and a moveable wheel is propelled in every direction, armed with knives and saws, which will tear in pieces any person against whom it is moved. I have not heard yet what is to be the name of this infernal Frigate, but surely, if it is to agree with her description, she is worthy no other than what I could give her, viz.—"*The Devil.*"—*Seaman.*

*Bow-street.*—On Wednesday, the 2d of May, a person who styled himself a half-pay officer, and whose name is Horner, was brought before G. R. Minshall, Esq. from Covent-garden watch-house, charged upon the oath of Mr W. Maynard, the check taker of the box-lobby of Covent-garden Theatre, who stated, that the prisoner, about ten o'clock on Tuesday evening, presented himself for admission without any check or order, and upon his refusing, the prisoner made no hesitation in forcing his way, and he had got as far as the first circle before the persons connected with the Theatre could stop him. It was found necessary to send for some officers before they could succeed in turning him out of the house. About an hour afterwards he again made his appearance, stating that he had come in search of the lady. The check taker not caring to let him pass as quietly as he did at first, shut to the little iron wicket gate. The prisoner, not minding bars and bolts as he said, as he had come in search of so divine an object, was in the act of getting over the gate, and in doing so, he laid hold of a pedestal statue just by, which is connected with the main cock of the gas pipes, and by some unlucky slip, he fell down bringing the statue along with him, which weighs upwards of 200 lbs. weight. The lobby was instantly filled with gas, and if it had not been for the active exertions of some persons present, it might have caused the house to be on flames. Mr. Brandon stated, that the damage done to the pedestal and iron work was, in his estimation, three pounds. The magistrate asked the prisoner to account for his conduct, who replied, that he went in search of the Queen of the Magic Spell; and that he was authorised by her to do any thing any where, and every where! The whole of the unfortunate man's conduct convinced every person present, that he was in a state of derangement. He was ordered to pay the damage done, which he did; and also find bail for assaulting the officers.—*Examiner.*

*Butterfly Hunting.*—In a letter from Mr. Brume to Mr. Rawlins, June 14, 1735, in the Bodleian Collection, he states that one Mr. Vernon followed a butterfly nine miles before he could catch him



# PARLIAMENTARY.

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## Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1821.

### OUTRAGE AT MANCHESTER.

Mr. GREY BENNET presented a petition from Robert Lees, the brother of the late John Lees, who died at Oldham in consequence of the injuries which he received during the dispersion of the Manchester meeting for reform, on the 16th of August, 1819. The petitioner complained that, owing to the negligence of the Coroner, the inquiry into the cause of his brother's death had not been prosecuted, and prayed that parliament would take the subject into consideration. The petition was ordered to lie on the table and to be printed.

Mr. BENNET then presented petitions from Edward Jones, and John Atkinson, praying that the house would institute some inquiry into the transactions of the 16th of August. Both these petitions were ordered to be printed.

Mr. CREEVEY presented petitions to a similar effect from James Woolstoncraft, William Schofield, William Wrightwaine, and James Tomlinson.—Ordered to be printed.

Alderman WOOD said he had several petitions to present from persons who had been wounded by the yeomanry cavalry on the 16th of August. Some of the petitioners spoke in high terms of the conduct of the regular troops on that melancholy occasion, and they all prayed for inquiry. The petitions were then read, from the following individuals:—Mary Black, Margaret Goodwin, John Shields, Mary Stillingfleet, James Bestwick, William Hibbert, and Daniel Mellon.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. HOBHOUSE said that he had several petitions to present referring to those transactions which would this evening be discussed. He did not now intend to enter at length into the nature of the petitions, but he would merely observe that one unfortunate individual stated that he was wounded at the meeting, and was afterwards apprehended and confined in the New Baili prison at Manchester, and finally dismissed without any charge being made against him. He understood the case of this individual was not without a parallel in many other instances. After the discussion which the subject to which the petition referred would receive that night, and after the great number of petitions which had been presented, he (Mr. Hobhouse) hoped he should hear no more misstatements of the transactions which took place on the day of the Manchester meeting. The false statements of facts, which had been brought forward for the purpose of deceiving parliament, had long ago disappeared. He would not, however, anticipate any observations which might be made by his honourable colleague, and would therefore conclude with moving that the petitions be brought up and read. (hear.)

The petitions from the following individuals were then read:—Thomas Kelly, of Manchester; William Thompson, of Bolton-le-Moor; William Barnes, of Manchester [this person stated that he was wounded, not at the time of the dispersal of the meeting, but at 9 o'clock at night, at which time the yeomanry cavalry were galloping up and down the streets of Manchester, cutting at every individual they met with]; Thomas Lees, of the township of Royton; Thomas Aston, of Manchester; Elizabeth Neil, who stated that she was ridden over by the yeomanry cavalry, and had all the ribs on one side of her body broken, in consequence of which she was confined for five months; and James Dawson, of Manchester.

Mr. HOBHOUSE stated, that this petitioner was the father of Edward Dawson, a young man who was wounded by the yeomanry, and, after lingering for 15 days, died. The petitioner stated that he had always understood that by our laws there was no wrong without a remedy, and he therefore prayed that he might be afforded an opportunity of obtaining justice by means of a parliamentary inquiry.

Lord MILTON observed, that he had formerly presented a petition from the same individual, and he could not avoid remarking, and it was prepared in the most artless manner, and did not appear to be one of those petitions which were sometimes got up for particular occasions.

Mr. HOBHOUSE had no doubt that the petition was written by Dawson himself. He could assure the house that none of the petitions which he had the honour to present were got up for the present occasion. He had received them all by the post, and he believed that in a few days many more would arrive. The hon. gentleman then stated, that he had a petition to present from an individual of much melancholy notoriety in the country, and in that house—he meant Wm. Ogden. The petitioner alleged that he was very old and infirm; and that, in consequence of having received two sabre cuts on the 16th of August, he was confined for a considerable time by a fever. He hoped that, as the laws had been notoriously violated, something would be done by parliament to enable him, as a sufferer by such violation, to obtain redress.

All the above petitions, in addition to the facts we have already mentioned, stated that no act of hostility was directed by the people against the yeomanry cavalry, before the latter commenced their attack on the assembled multitude. The honourable member then presented the following petitions:—

From Margaret Horrocks, who stated that she had been sabred and trampled upon by the yeomanry cavalry, and that while they were cutting at herself and others, they used such oaths and imprecations as convinced the petitioner they were not masters of themselves.

From Biddy Marks (we believe), who described herself as having been severely bruised, and her shoulder dislocated; from the effects of which she had not yet recovered.

From Wm. Boothe, of Manchester, who stated that he had been cut down five times by the yeomanry cavalry on the 16th of August, and most severely wounded.

From Thos. Grinshaw, of Manchester, who stated that he had both his arms broken on the 16th; that he was disabled from supporting himself by his industry, and was now a pauper in the workhouse at Warrington.

From Catherine Coltman, who stated that she was the mother of nine children; that she attended at the meeting on the 16th, and was there thrown down, along with several others, by the yeomanry cavalry; and that whilst she was down the cavalry cut at those who were over her: she was badly wounded and bruised.

From Wm. Stewart, of Manchester. He stated that he was sabred and trampled almost to death by the yeomanry cavalry; and he prayed that he might be called to the bar of the house in order to be examined as to the facts contained in his petition.

From James Chiswell (we think), of Royton. He complained of having been sabred and cut down by the yeomanry cavalry on the 16th and that he had not since recovered from the effect of the wounds received on that occasion.

The last petition which the hon. member presented was from Simon Mellor. He complained that he had been sabred and cut down by the yeomanry cavalry; that he saw a woman die in consequence of having been thrown down on the same occasion, and he added his belief that the whole of the attack was preconcerted, for if it had not been so, he was satisfied that some inquiry would have been instituted, and some of the parties brought to justice before the present time.

Each of these petitioners prayed for an immediate inquiry into the transactions of the 16th.

Mr. HOBHOUSE said that all the petitions were very respectfully drawn up, and in such an artless manner as left no doubt of his mind of their sincerity.

The whole of the petitions were ordered to be printed.

Mr. JAMES presented a petition from Nathan Broadhurst, now a prisoner confined in the castle of Lancaster, complaining of having been wounded by the yeomanry cavalry at Manchester.

Mr. HARBORD said he held in his hand a petition from a very poor, but he believed a very honest individual, named Butterworth. He was one of those persons who had unfortunately been among the sufferers at Manchester on the 16th of August. He was by trade a weaver, and had supported his family by his industry till that unfortunate day, when he was so severely wounded as to be ever since incapable of supporting a wife and three children, who were entirely dependant upon him for their maintenance. He prayed that an immediate inquiry might be instituted into the transaction, and that the guilty parties might be brought to justice. In moving that this petition be brought up, the hon. member said he would take that opportunity, without at all meaning to anticipate the statement of the hon. baronet (Sir F. Burdett,) to offer a few remarks to the house on the subject of the transactions at Manchester, and to state why he should support the prayer for inquiry. It would not be denied that great distress prevailed in the country, and particularly in the neighbourhood of Manchester, in the year 1819. During the prevalence of that distress, a public meeting was called to be held on the 9th of August. That meeting, however, the magistrates had taken measures to prevent, and it was not held. Another meeting was called for the 16th, and all persons, even the magistrates, were invited to attend. No measures that he had ever heard of were taken to prevent this meeting, which, he contended, ought to have been done if it were of an illegal character. (hear.) On the contrary, large parties of the military were stationed in the neighbourhood of the place of meeting, as it were, in ambush. While the business of the meeting was going on, a warrant was ordered for the arrest of Mr. Hunt. He knew not upon what grounds; but, at all events, the civil officers who got this warrant did not execute it. The magistrates were told that they (the police) could not do so; and without further inquiry they sent among the multitude—not the regular troops, but—a political soldiery (hear, hear, from the Opposition), the yeomanry cavalry of the town (hear, hear.) The

dreadful havoc which ensued upon their getting among the multitude he would not attempt to describe. It was such as could not be related without horror. One of the magistrates who had consented to this order, as if not perfectly satisfied of the strict propriety of what had been done, came immediately off to London, and had a meeting with the cabinet. Here it was he thought the conduct of government extremely censurable; for without giving themselves time to inquire into the transaction, after a short interval of only a few days, they offered the thanks of the crown to the parties who took a leading part on this occasion. One of the principal actors on this occasion was a clergyman—a minister of that religion which dictates peace and good will to all men: he was the most active and the most severe on this occasion. How far that individual could reconcile such conduct to his character as a minister of the church of Christ, he (Mr. Harbord) would not pretend to say: he would leave it to himself. But he could not avoid stating one fact, which had become a matter of history—that this very clergyman, not very long after those melancholy transactions, had (no doubt, not for any thing which he had done on that day, for he could not suppose such a thing; but for his other virtues—his meekness, his charity, his temperance) got a living worth two thousand pounds a year, which he still enjoyed. (*hear, hear, hear.*) Such was the short history of the transaction. The hon. member then adverted to the Oldham inquest, and observed, that after the extraordinary termination of that proceeding, he could not feel the same security for himself as a member of the community that he had before; and the more he reflected on it, the more he trembled for the administration of the laws of the country. He himself had been in the neighbourhood of the scene of those transactions since; and after the most minute inquiry into the whole of them—some of which he had made from the magistrates themselves—it was his opinion that the conduct pursued on the 16th of August was not at all justifiable. He had heard the magistrates say—for he would not blink the question—that there had been trainings before this meeting; but if that were the fact, why had they not been prevented? Why had the people been suffered to make such preparations? Next, it was said that it was tremendous to see such bodies of men coming at once into the town. That might be true; but why had they all been suffered to come into the town? Why had they not been stopped before they all formed into one immense mass? (*hear.*) It was said that the Riot Act had been read, and he had no doubt of the fact, from the authority on which he heard it; but it was read formally, and it could not be known that it was read: a placard might have informed the people that it was read and occasioned their dispersing, which the reading had not, because they could not know of its having been read. The whole of his objections were—first, that if the meeting was illegal, it ought not to have been allowed to take place; secondly, that greater force and violence had been used than had been necessary; and thirdly, that every means of inquiry had been hitherto choked up. He, therefore, thought that the house of Commons was the place where the inquiry ought to have been made. It was said that the courts of law were open for inquiry; but when he found that indictment after indictment had been preferred and rejected, he could not but support the prayer of the petition. As long as he lived, he should never lose the recollection of the transactions connected with the 16th of August: and when he recollected them, he could not but tremble for the administration of the laws, which he thought endangered by the conduct of those who had given the thanks of the crown before they had attempted any inquiry into the transactions which they had thus approved. The hon. member concluded by moving that the petition be brought up.

Mr. Sergeant ONSLOW said it was not his intention to anticipate the debate; but he could not bear the hon. member call the yeomanry a political soldiery without entering his protest against it. (*hear.*) The yeomanry were a most useful and efficient body; and no country on earth could create or support such a body except Great Britain and Ireland. As to the observations of the honourable member respecting the reverend clergymen, Mr. Hay, having acted as a magistrate, he would tell him as a lawyer, that if he (Mr. Harbord) thought that the exercise of the duties of the latter situation was incompatible with those of the former, he knew not the laws of his country. The rev. gentleman was bound as a magistrate to have acted to the best of his judgment; and if he had refused to act at all, he might have rendered himself liable to be struck out of the magistracy. Another assertion of the hon. member's (Mr. Harbord's) was respecting the Living which had been given to this rev. gentleman. It was true he had not said it was given for any particular conduct on the occasion alluded to; but, from the manner in which he had expressed himself, he had more than insinuated as much. Now he (Sergeant Onslow) could state that the Living had not been given to Mr. Hay by government, or by any person connected with government. It had been bestowed by a right rev. prelate (*hear, hear, from the Opposition benches.*), and in consequence of a promise which had been made to that effect two years before the transactions at Manchester. (*hear, hear, from the Ministerial side.*) It was, therefore, unfair to insinuate that the Living had been given from political motives. (*hear.*)

Lord MILTON concurred in the enlogium which the learned sergeant had passed on our yeomanry corps in general; but it was not to them that his hon. friend had alluded: he had spoken of the Manchester cavalry only (*hear, hear*); and any one at all acquainted with Manchester would not deny that the yeomanry corps of that town was not composed of farmers residing on their lands, like those of Sussex and Surrey; but that they were remarkable for their party feeling. Now, as to the Living which the learned sergeant said had been given by a right reverend prelate, in consequence of a previous promise, he would not deny it, as it had been stated by the honourable and learned member; but he had heard a rumour on this subject which he should like to hear contradicted, if it could be contradicted, that an arrangement had been made with the right reverend prelate to give him the disposal of a Living usually in the gift of the crown, in consequence of his having given the Living in question to Mr. Hay.

Mr. B. BATHURST.—I beg leave positively to say that there is no foundation for such a rumour. (*hear, hear, from the Ministerial side.*)

Lord MILTON.—I had heard the rumour; and I am glad that the right honourable gentleman has had an opportunity of contradicting it.

Mr. B. BATHURST.—I am glad that the noble lord has given me the opportunity of contradicting it.

Mr. HARBORD, in moving that the petition be printed, stated that the explanation given by the noble Lord (Milton) of what he had said respecting the yeomanry cavalry, was exactly what he himself would have given if he had not thought it would have been out of order at the moment. He had objected to the Manchester cavalry having been employed, as having been under the influence of strong political feelings, and therefore unfit for such a duty. As to what he had said of the interference of the Rev. Mr. Hay, he had got it from a friend of that gentleman's; and therefore, if it were a mistake, it was not his. (*hear.*) The hon. member now presented another petition from a person named Thomas Gledstone, of Manchester, complaining of having been assaulted and wounded by the yeomanry cavalry on the 16th, and he prayed for inquiry. It was ordered to be printed.

Mr. F. PALMER presented a similar petition from a person named David Ellis, in which he stated that he had been attacked and cut down by the yeomanry cavalry; and, in endeavouring to defend himself by putting up his hand, had his hand severely cut, by which he was confined for a month. He also prayed for inquiry. The petition was ordered to be printed.

Mr. COKE (of Norfolk) presented a similar petition from a woman named Alice Birch, in which she complained of having been attacked by the yeomanry cavalry at Manchester, and severely wounded and bruised. She prayed for inquiry into the transaction. It was ordered to be printed.

Mr. S. WHITBREAD rose to present two petitions from unfortunate sufferers on the same occasion. The first petition was from one who stated that there was great confusion on that day, but that it had been altogether occasioned by the cavalry. The one was from William Garthy, the other from James Boothby. They were brought up, read, laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. LENNARD rose to present petitions from three unfortunate sufferers in what in his opinion had been aptly termed the Manchester massacre. The subject was to be brought before the house this night by the hon. bart., and nothing which he (Mr. Lennard) could say could add to the weight of the statements to be submitted to their attention. If the right of petitioning was not gone now and for ever, the house was bound to inquire into such an outrage, or the desire of approaching that house with petitions was as much a farce as the petitions of county meetings on another occasion. The petitions were from—1. Elizabeth Gaunt, who had been thrown down, trampled on, and confined to the parish workhouse for three months; 2. John Cavannah, who has been wounded on the left shoulder, struck down, and afterwards trampled on; and, 3. Wm. Bromley, who had been trodden down by the pressure of the crowd, and, as soon as he attempted to rise, had been wounded on the hand and above the eyes.

They were received, and ordered to be printed.

Sir R. WILSON rose to present 13 petitions on the same subject from persons who were sufferers on the same melancholy occasion, and who, to the prejudice of good government, had to this day received no redress. The first was from Joseph Jones, who had been wounded on the 16th of August, and in consequence disabled for many weeks; the 2d was from Joseph Hinwell, who had been wounded on the same day; the third from Edward Johnson, who had received a sabre wound, and had two ribs broken; the 4th from William Cheetham, who was addressed by Meagher the trumpeter—"D—n you, I'll cut your head off," and who immediately received a cut on his neck, and had his hat partly cut away. The petitioner stated further, that he had gone to Lancaster, and presented a bill in hopes of bringing the



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cowardly trumpeter to justice; that Lord Stanley, the foreman of the grand jury, asked him what regiment he had belonged to; and on being told that it was the 2d Lancashire militia, said, laughing, "he was sorry one of his regiment should have got into such a hobble," and that his bill was thrown out.

Lord STANLEY said he did not rise to oppose the receiving of the petition, but from anxiety to clear himself, when his conduct was brought before those whom he now saw around him. (*hear, hear.*) It was perfectly true that he had been foreman of the grand jury, and it was also true that the bill had been thrown out. He thanked the gallant general for having given him notice yesterday of the nature of this petition. He confessed that he had but a very vague recollection of the transactions alluded to; but he had endeavoured to fortify his own impressions by conferring with other individuals who had been on the grand jury. It might be perfectly correct that, seeing a man whom he thought he had seen before, he had asked him what regiment he had belonged to, with the view of confirming his opinion. The petitioner told him, as he had expected, and he believed so far only, that he had been in the 2d Lancashire militia. He believed it was so far true, that he had regretted to see any individual belonging to his corps in such a situation. (*hear, hear.*) It was not extraordinary he should have felt regret without entering into the merits, when he had known and for several years employed him under him, and now saw him with any charge before the grand jury. He might also have felt regret that he had been engaged in such proceedings, without considering the motives of having been so engaged; but if, as seemed to be stated, it was supposed that he could have laughed at this individual, or any individual in a similar situation, those who knew him (*cheers*) would think it unnecessary for him to say one word in explanation. That word which imputed laughing to him was false. He had not accompanied his observations with any laugh, sneer, or any such symptom. The petitioner had offered to show the hurt he had received, and to submit his wound for examination; but he (Lord Stanley) had not certainly thought it necessary that the petitioner should address for that purpose.

Sir ROBERT WILSON said he would not justify any imputation on the humanity of the noble lord on that occasion. The hon. member then proceeded in presenting other petitions. The fifth was from Joseph Briarley, who had been wounded on the 16th of August; the 6th was from Margaret Booth, who had been thrown down, trampled on, and taken off the field for dead; the 7th was from Ann Whittaker, who had her right hand crushed and disabled for a long time; the 8th was from three sisters, Elizabeth, Helen, and Isabella Harvey, 24, 18, and 14 years of age, who had been on the same day trodden down and much hurt; the 9th was from Mary Fynes, who had been knocked down by a stanchion, and severely wounded; the 10th was from Robert Taylor Wild, who stated that he had been dragged away to jail, and 1,000l. bail demanded; that, not being able to pay, he had been committed to Lancaster jail, where, at the assizes, the bail was reduced to 400l.; that he had been tried at York, when the only evidence given against him was, that he had advised the people to be peaceable and quiet; that he had been discharged, but that he had suffered great distress by confinement and harsh treatment, and prayed for inquiry and redress; the 11th was from John Briarley, who had suffered on the 16th of August. The above 11 petitions were received and ordered to be printed.

Sir ROBERT WILSON next presented a petition from that individual whose prosecution he never could consider but as a violent stretching of law, and whose punishment was vindictive, oppressive, and unjust, in a country where justice was supposed to be administered with mercy. The petition gave a history of the proceedings from the 16th of August to the day the petitioner was sent to Ilchester gaol for two years and six months, and prayed that the petitioner might be allowed to prove those facts.

Lord MILTON rose to make only one observation upon this petition. Mr. Hunt's was a different case from the case of all the other petitioners. His case and the people's rested on different ground.

Mr. SCARLETT said, he should not do justice to persons who were absent, if he did not state what he knew upon the subject to which part of the petition referred—that was, the treatment of the petitioner in Ilchester gaol. A rule obtained in the Court of King's Bench had been discharged with costs, and without any facts or evidence having been offered in support of it. He knew nothing but that of the merits.

The petition was received and ordered to be printed.

Sir R. WILSON then presented the 13th petition, which was from the same individual, complaining of the gaoler at Ilchester. The petitioner stated that it had not been presented before, because inquiry into the Manchester massacre had been postponed from time to time. The cold and noxious vapours of the gaol were aggravated by the inhuman cold-blooded, and remorseless keeper's conduct. The judges had deliberately and intentionally selected the most unwholesome, the worst regulated, and the most immoral gaol in the kingdom, whose keeper, William Bridles, was a most prodigate, unprincipled man, and an unfeel-

ing monster of cruelty besides, and within the accursed walls of which monstrous practices were carried on. One of the judges, who had been born in the neighbourhood of this bastille, had not been able to conceal his joy when he saw the petitioner sentenced to imprisonment in it for two years and six months.

Mr. BRIGHT would be always ready to defend the liberty of the subject against infringement; but he could say, with full confidence, that he believed in his conscience the imputations in this petition were perfectly unfounded. (*hear, hear.*) How was it possible that any judge could know the internal regulations of that gaol? None in the county believed the charges respecting that gaol. He reproached himself for not having stood forward earlier to repel the charges against the magistrates of that county. Should it be believed, that a judge was better acquainted with the internal regulations of a gaol than the magistrates of the county? His indignation was excited by imputations so atrocious and so evidently false; and the indignation of the house must have rendered it unnecessary for him to give expression to his own. There was not one magistrate who was not astonished at the discoveries said to be made in that gaol.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY said that it appeared on the face of the petition, that it might have been presented earlier, but that it was withheld till now, when a motion respecting the transactions at Manchester was to be made. The house would judge whether it was now presented for the purposes of inflammation and passion, or to promote calm and fair inquiry. A petition so calumnious against the venerable magistrate and judge, it was impossible that the house could receive.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that, having been present in court, he could say that no expression of language or gesture of the nature alleged had appeared on that occasion. He believed in his conscience that the gaol had been selected because it was believed, whether in fact so or not, to be the best regulated in the country. They had it now stated that those venerable persons had full knowledge that the gaol was the worst, and had the malignity to select it for aggravation. This was most falsely asserted, and had not a shadow of foundation.

Mr. SCARLETT said that when he had made an observation on the former petition, he had not had an idea that such a tissue of the basest and foulest slanders were to be brought before the house. To the conduct of the gaoler he had nothing to say; but that the rule obtained had met with the result he had stated. It was not only the kind of complaint made, but the terms in which it was made, which must cause the rejection of it. If the time should ever come when a man could from his prison send forth false, base, and slanderous imputations, by petitions to that house, it would become necessary to put an end to petitions. He believed no judges had ever given more anxious and painful attention than in this case. They had been aware that it was of a nature to excite, and had excited, much public feeling. They had given the petitioner an indulgence which they had not been accustomed to give—they had allowed him to consult with counsel, when he had declined to do so before; they had borne with a great deal more than was usual. He (Mr. Scarlett) had regretted to see in a court of justice the attempts of the petitioner at intimidation, menace, and insult. This petition was a continuation of the same conduct. It was calumnious, infamous, and false throughout, as far as regarded the justices of the Court of King's Bench. He was of opinion that those learned and venerable persons had sentenced Mr. Hunt to confinement in Ilchester gaol, under the idea that it was one of the best conducted gaols in the country. He thought that, under all the circumstances of the case, this petition ought to be rejected.

Dr. LUSHINGTON should have been for the reception of this petition had it not stated opinions instead of facts. If it had stated facts, however false those facts might hereafter have been proved to be, he should have said that it was the duty of the house to receive it; but as it related only to surmises of the motives which might have actuated certain individuals, he was clearly of opinion that it would not be right to allow it to lie on the table. As to the subject of complaint contained in the petition, he could not help observing that it had now lain five weeks upon their table without any one step having been taken to remove it. In consequence of the proposition of an hon. alderman, the house had indeed determined that a Commission ought to sit to inquire into the state of Ilchester gaol; but no such Commission had as yet been appointed by government. His Majesty's ministers might, perhaps, be of opinion that there was no occasion for such a Commission; but, after the facts which had been stated, and the assertions which had been made in the house, little doubt ought to exist as to the necessity of such a Commission. If the keeper of that gaol were the base, unfeeling wretch that he was described to be—and he by no means intended to say that he was—the sooner he was removed from his situation the better; for 150 of our fellow-creatures ought not to be allowed to remain for any period, however short, under the government of such a being. As the representative of the borough of Ilchester, he had done all in his power to bring the subject fairly before the house; and he trusted that

after what he had now said, it would be unnecessary for him to trouble the house with any further observations upon it at any future occasion.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL informed the hon. member, that a Commission for inquiry into the state of Ilchester gaol had been made out and signed 5 days after the vote of the house upon that subject. He could likewise assure him that there had been no unnecessary delay in any part of its proceedings.

Dr. LUSHINGTON.—“Have the Commissioners yet set out for Ilchester?”

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL replied that they had not yet set out; some time had elapsed before the Commissioners were appointed, in consequence of its being necessary to know whether the gentlemen selected for the office would undertake it. He again repeated that no unnecessary delay had taken place.

The SPEAKER then put the question, that the petition do lie on the table; but it was rejected without a single voice being raised in its favour.

Mr. HUME said, that he had 5 petitions to present from individuals who had been wounded by the irruption of the yeomanry on the 16th of August. The hon. gentleman presented them singly: they were severally read by the clerk and ordered to be printed. The particulars of the first we were not able to learn, from the low tone of voice in which Mr. Hume stated and the clerk afterwards read them. The second petition was from the widow of Arthur O’Neele, who was so grievously wounded on the 16th of August that he died shortly afterwards. The third was from Mary Ann Mackenna, and stated that in consequence of wounds which she had received when she was knocked down by the cavalry, she had been confined six weeks in the Infirmary, during part of which time her life had been despaired of. The fourth was from James Campbell, who stated, that on the 16th of August he received a sabre-wound 4 inches deep on his shoulder, from one of the yeomanry; and the 5th was from John Thompson, who stated, that in consequence of a sabre-wound across the breast by which he had been cut down, he had been confined to his bed for several weeks. All the petitioners concurred in declaring the meeting to have been perfectly quiet, until the yeomanry disturbed it; and prayed that the house would order an inquiry to be instituted into the manifold outrages which were then committed.

Dr. LUSHINGTON presented a petition to a similar effect from another sufferer on the 16th of August, whose name we could not distinguish. The petitioner considered himself rather fortunate in having escaped with only a deep wound in his shoulder, on a day when so many of his fellow-countrymen were murdered. It was his (Dr. Lushington’s) duty to go through the form of presenting this petition; but he had not the slightest hope that by so doing he should accomplish the wishes of the petitioner. Similar petitions had been brought before the late parliament, and had been met with insult, ridicule, and falsehood. He had little doubt that a similar fate would befall the present petitions.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. LAMBTON had several petitions to present on that event, which had very properly been called the “Manchester massacre.” The first which he should present was the petition of Samuel Jackson. The petitioner stated that on the 16th of August he was walking in Oldham-street, Manchester, along with his brother and sister-in-law, when several soldiers fired their muskets, without there being, in his opinion, the slightest occasion for their so doing. The petitioner was wounded in the knee by one of their shots, and in consequence was carried to the hospital, where his leg was amputated at 9 o’clock the same evening. The petition further stated, that the petitioner had been confined 14 weeks in the hospital, and was even yet an out-pensioner of the infirmary.—Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. LAMBTON then presented a petition of a similar nature from John Kershaw, which, after declaring that the petitioner had attended the meeting of the 16th of August, and after describing the quiet state of that meeting until the yeomanry charged it, went on to state that the petitioner was thrown down by the cavalry and had his collar bone broken—inasmuch that three months elapsed before he was able to recline on one side. The petitioner also expressed his surprise that no inquiry had been made into the murderous havoc which had then been committed on his Majesty’s faithful subjects, and hoped that the house would order an investigation to be immediately instituted into it. Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed; as was also a similar petition from James Smith, who stated, that whilst he was at the meeting in question, he saw a woman struck by the sabres of the yeomanry, by whose blood his face was besprinkled; and that afterwards being himself thrown down by their horses, he had his own elbow split on the joint by a sabre wound; which had made medical care necessary to him for some weeks. A similar petition of Owen Mackay was also ordered to be printed. This petitioner stated that he arrived at the meeting about the same time as Mr. Hunt came to it, and in about half an hour afterward witnessed the furious attack made upon it by the cavalry. In

an attempt to escape from them he was thrown down, and had his head crushed and all his ribs broken by the trampling of their horses. He likewise added, that he was still under the care of a surgeon; that he was incapable of labouring for his own subsistence, and that he expected that he should remain so for life, from the injuries which he had then sustained.

Mr. WHARTON (Beverley) presented a similar petition from another person who had been wounded on the 16th of August; but we regret that we were unable to learn the particulars of it, from the low tones in which they were stated. Ordered to be printed.

Sir WILLIAM DE CRESPIGNY said, that he had petitions to present from four individuals who had been severely injured on the fatal 16th of August. One of them was from a person of the name of Joseph Bruce, who stated, that he was stabbed in the back by the cavalry; and expressed his conviction that he should have been killed by them if he had not leaped over some rails into a cellar. The prayer of the petition was similar to that of the several petitions already presented. It was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Sir WM. DE CRESPIGNY was putting a second petition into the hands of the clerk when some laughter was exhibited by certain members on the ministerial benches. The hon. bart. expressed his sorrow that any members could condescend so low as to indulge their laughter at the expense of their maimed and wounded countrymen. (cheers). He was sorry that they could not reserve their merriment to some better occasion; they might have given way to it with a better grace, when some other proceedings than those of such an extraordinary and atrocious nature as the present were before the house. (cheers). He then presented the petition of one James Bryant, the particulars of which were not heard in the gallery: also the petition of James Lees, who received two tremendous sabre wounds in the head; and of John Brooks, who received a sabre wound of a similar nature, which disabled him for months; praying for an inquiry into the circumstances under which the outrage took place. They were ordered to be printed.

Mr. MONCK said that, if the facts stated in the petitions just presented to the house were true, he agreed with the people in denominating the transactions at Manchester the “Manchester Massacre,” for never, on any occasion that he recollected in history, was human blood poured out more wantonly, more lavishly, and more unnecessarily. (cheers). He had to present a petition on the same subject with the last petitions, from an old woman of 82, who was at the meeting. She declared it to have been perfectly orderly, until it was attacked by the yeomanry, who appeared to her to be intoxicated. She was herself attacked by Meagher, the trumpeter, who cut her down with his sabre, and inflicted a severe wound upon her shoulder. She complained that she had been unable to obtain any redress from the magistrates of Lancashire, who were most of them implicated in the outrages in question. He hoped that an inquiry would be instituted into these transactions, as humanity no less than the high calls of justice required it. The petition was ordered to be printed.

Mr. MONCK then presented a similar petition from James Ogla. The facts stated in this petition were as follow:—After the cavalry had charged, the petitioner ran into an enclosure, round which he was chased by certain of the yeomanry. He escaped from them by dropping from a wall; but, in so doing, he fell upon his back: whilst he was in this position he was seen by another yeoman, who rode up to him and inflicted a severe wound upon him just above the eye. The petition was ordered to be printed.

Sir F. BURDETT stated that he had received a petition similar to those already presented, from James Knight, but that he had, unfortunately not brought it with him to the house.

### London Gazette.

LONDON GAZETTE, SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1821.

At the Court at Carlton-House, the 5th of May 1821, present, the King’s most excellent Majesty in Council. His Majesty having been pleased to appoint Lieutenant General the Honorable Sir Edward Paget, G. C. B. to be Governor and Commander in Chief in the Island of Ceylon, he this day took the oaths as Governor of the said Island.

WAR-OFFICE, FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1821.

1st Ceylon Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Henry Sullivan, from half-pay 56th Foot to be Lieutenant Colonel, vice Moffat, appointed to the 33d Foot. Dated 3d May 1821.

### Europe Death.

At sea, on the 12th of April, on board the Hon. Company’s extra ship *George the Fourth*, Charlotte Ann, the youngest daughter of the late Rev. Thomas Bracken, of Tottenham, Middlesex, and St. James’s, Westminster, aged 19.



## Indian News.

**Nemaur, on the North bank of the Nerbudda.**—This spot, which a short period since, annually witnessed the presence of twenty or thirty thousand assembled Pindarries, is now occupied by a Detachment of Sepoys, whose numerical strength amounts not to one hundred men. With this inconsiderable force, the tranquillity of an extensive tract of country is now preserved entire, and scarcely an individual of its former plunderers is any where discoverable. The last of the marauding chiefs, Shaik Daulloo, is occasionally heard of in the neighbourhood of Charwa and Muckrac, where his sudden appearance, with half a dozen ragged and hungry followers, throws the inhabitants into a state of momentary alarm. This man, however, is certainly incapable of any extensive mischief; he seems, indeed, more intent on procuring a scanty supply of food, to satisfy the pressing calls of hunger, than desirous of pursuing a regular system of plunder. The Shaik's name, notwithstanding, is not wholly destitute of terror, as the following method of obtaining provisions, not unfrequently practised by him, will abundantly testify. He dispatches a message to the "Puttel," or head man of a village, desiring him to cause a quantity of food for the Chief, and provender for his horse, to be placed beneath a tree, which is pointed out on the skirts of the jungle, where he lies concealed; in the event of failure, in performance of these injunctions, a threat is thrown out, of destruction to the place, and inhabitants, by fire and sword! This stratagem, I am assured, seldom proves unsuccessful. A letter from the Ameel at Hurda, or rather the Charge d'Affaires, as that personage is at this time absent, brings information, that Shaik Daulloo had been surprised in one of his haunts, by a party of police from Charwa, but contrived to effect his escape, leaving his horse and spear behind him: as these trophies are secured, I shall probably receive further particulars in the course of to-morrow, when, if they prove of sufficient interest, you shall be made acquainted with the substance of them.

**Assassination of the Rajah of Kolapoor.**—The District of Kolapoor, which is situated in the Western range of Mountains, about 120 miles South of Poonah, and 100 West of Bejapoor, was, on the 15th of July, thrown into the greatest confusion, owing to a most daring, and, unfortunately, a successful attempt to assassinate the Rajah Streemon Maharauze Chutterputtic, by one of his Horsemen. This man seems to have considered himself unjustly treated by his Chief, and finding no success attend his importunity for redress, he determined to take revenge; and on the day abovementioned, when the Maharauze was in Durbar, this assassin deliberately fired at, and killed him! The people concerned in this horrid affair, are understood to be all connections of this ruffian's: the whole of the party were overtaken in endeavouring to escape, by some Troops sent after them, and their heads are now to be seen, on the walls of Kolapoor.

**Southern Mahratta Country, August 8.—Cholera.**—I am happy to inform you that the Epidemic Cholera is no longer heard of in this part of the Country.

We have heard from our Friends in advance, that the Madras Troops at Nagpeer, are to be relieved by the Bengal Army, after the rains; and we are consequently very anxious to ascertain, if it is correct. It is reported that the Madras Army are to relieve the Bengal Troops in Cuttack, which we hear is intended to be given as an equivalent. We hear also, that to place the Madras Army on something like an equality in promotion, with the Army in Bengal and Bombay, it is intended to Regiment the 6 Extra Corps and to relieve the Bombay Troops in the Southern Conkan—at Sholapoor and Sattarra, by Troops from that Presidency. There is however also another report, (but from another quarter), that the Madras Troops are to fall back behind the Toombodra, with the exception of the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force; and that the Bombay Army are to relieve them in the Southern Mahratta Country, as the Bengal Troops are to do at Nagpeer. Should this be correct, we may expect to see a very considerable reduction take place, in the Coast Army, instead of any increase.

**Achbars.—Oodeepoor.**—It is confidently asserted that the Rannah, tired of the cares and troubles of Royalty, and sensible of his own incompetency to manufacture a Constitution adapted to the intelligence of the age, has resolved to abdicate in favour of the Muha Rajah Tadjee Splottergaja, who is to ascend the Gudde amidst a grand meeting of the Ameers of Oodeepoor. Shortly after his ascension, the Tadjee Code is to be promulgated. This Code is happily constructed; it is formed of one seventy-eighth part of the Ideal Commonwealth of Plato, one-seventeenth of Tacitus de Mor. Germ. two-seventieths of the Pandects and Decretal, one-seventeenth of Munnoo, one-sixty-third of the *Lod Brog*, and the rest of equal parts of Locke, Montesquieu, Gravidia, Filangieri, and Jeremy Bentham.

**Indoor.**—Yesterday's Court Circular announced that Her Highness the Bheema Bacc had determined on a pilgrimage to Dwarka. In forming her household for this journey, she has conferred the post of Chamberlain and Master of the Revels upon the Muttussudee Chundee Deen, who has lately crept into her high favour by translating "The Hundred Tales of Love" into fine guttural Mahrattah. As the journey will occupy three months, it is arranged that one Tale shall be read at the *gloaming* every evening: this was suggested to Her Highness by reading Lallah Rookh, a poem to which she is right lovingly attached, and which she threatens to translate into Mahrattah hexameters.

**Lahore.**—They write from Calcutta, that the trade of that port is for the time quite *done up*. In consequence of the inactivity of the Shipping, some two or three of the *Mulik-oot-Tujars* of that city have proposed to the Elder Mysoor Prince that he should straightway declare war against Her Serene Highness the Ranee of Bednore, and fitting out an armament proceed to the conquest of the Lacadives or prepare a secret Expedition against the Andamans. These *Mulik-oot-Tujars* are said to be Messrs. Pummer, Ung, and Crowdydown. If the Expedition succeeds in either of these important conquests, the three Tujars are to be gratified by the leading appointments in the administration of the Prince: Mr. Pummer is to have the Portefeuille of Foreign Affairs and to be President of the Council; Ung is to have the War Department, and to be (ad interim) Minister of Finance; Crowdydown is to have the Home Department, and, strange to say, Imam General or Pontifex Maximus. Under these Ministers, the New Empire of the Lacadives or the Andamans is expected to rise rapidly into importance; and although it is not likely immediately to be a match for one of your full-grown, large-mawed, port-bellied States, yet confident anticipations are held of its turning out the *bean ideal* of your small sucking Empires.

## Marriage.

At Cuttack, on the 1st instant, Mr. Richard Lindsay, to Miss Clara Charles, eldest Daughter of Mr. Samuel Charles.

## Births.

At the Presidency, on the 8th instant, the Lady of Alexander George Paterson, Esq. of a Daughter.

At Poonah, on the 13th ultimo, the Wife of Mr. Conductor R. E. Willock, of the Commissariat Department, of a Daughter.

In Rampart Row, Bombay, on the 14th ultimo, the Lady of Arratoon Apear, Esq. of a Son.

## Deaths.

At Madras, on the 31st ultimo, the Honorable Sir George Cooper, Kt. First Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Judicature of that Presidency.

On the 25th of June last, the Infant of Captain W. Gowan, Barrack Master of the Meerut Division.

At Masulipatam, Mrs. N. Cannah.

At Vepery, on the 16th ultimo, Mr. John Pratt, aged 42 years.

At Pondicherry, on the 15th ultimo, after a very short illness, Blanche, the only daughter of Monsieur Law de Clappernow, aged 10 years.

At Pondicherry, on the 18th ultimo, Belina, youngest daughter of Captain N. de Bergeon, aged 7 years and 3 months.

## Annuities of India.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

Being about to return to my native country with a very moderate fortune, I am desirous of granting a small Pension or Annuity of a few Rupees per month to three of my Domestic Servants, who have served me for above seven and twenty years.

Having a large family, I cannot afford to retain for these domestics, in order that they may draw the interest, so much of the small sum of Company's Paper, in which my small fortune is vested, as would give the Annuities I wish them to enjoy. I have determined to turn all my Company's Paper into Gold, and to carry it home with me, (considering that five per cent in England is better than six per cent. in India, without means of getting the interest remitted to you in England, unless at an enormous loss). I therefore beg that some of your Readers will inform me in what manner I can secure to my Old Domestics and a poor Female Orphan, who fell into my hands during the famine in the upper-country a small Annuity for life, of 120 Sicca Rupees each. Even were I to leave a Government Bond with them and authorize them to receive the interest, they would not understand how to obtain it at Agra, where they are living; and might starve or be cheated out of the whole, should the Bond be discharged by Government.

The Orphan, I should leave at Calcutta. I could get my friends to pay her for the present an Annuity; but the case of my old friend—, who left Funds with —, who is become a bankrupt, to pay a small Annuity for life to — and his four children, who are now in the greatest distress, is a warning to me to adopt a different plan. Besides, my friend is likely to follow my example soon, and return to Old England if he can only get a remittance of his fortune without much loss.

I beg you will give or obtain as early an answer to my request as possible, as I have made all my other arrangements for quitting the country, and am only endeavouring to insure the safe landing in England of the savings of my servitude, for above a quarter of a century.

Central India, }  
August, 1821. }

I am, Sir, your's, &amp;c.

HOMEWARD BOUND.

## Commercial Reports.

## THE LONDON MARKET, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 4, 1821.

The Private Sales of Cotton this week consist of 93 Demarara, and Berbice at 11½d. to 12½d.—30 Carriacou and Grenada at 11½, and in bond 200 Surat 5½ to 6½—200 Upland at 9½—46 Orleans at 11½—and 100 Smyrna at 8 to 8½—there have been sold by Auction 200 bags Demerara and Berbice at 11½ to 11½—30 Surinam at 12 to 12½, and about 400 aaron common West India, at 8½ to 9½ per lb. The demand for Plantation Sugar has been steady, but not extensive, the prices of good descriptions are fully supported, whilst inferior qualities are rather lower—the market for refined Sugar has been amply supplied this week, and purchases have in consequence been made at a reduction of 1s. per cwt. The Havana and Brazil Sugars offered this week have gone off heavily a small proportion only having been sold, but there is little variation in prices. There have been extensive public sales of Coffee brought forward this week; yesterday about 2,000 packages, and this morning nearly 1,700. The ordinary qualities of Jamaica in yesterday's sale, went 2s. to 3s. and the fine 3s. to 4s. per cwt. lower. The Foreign, consisting of St. Domingo, Brazil, and Porto Rico, sold at an improvement of 1s. St. Domingo brought 114s. to 116s., and good and fine ordinary Brazil 115s. to 118s. The greater part of to-day's sale consisted of St. Domingo, chiefly damaged—the sound sold at 116s. and 117s., and damaged at 114s. 6d.—middling grey Demerara at 129s. 6d. and 130s.—middling Jamaica at 124s., and fine ordinary foxy at 118s. 6d. per cwt.

Sugar.—The average price of Sugar, computed from the returns made in the week ended on the 2d of May, is 34s. 9½d. per cwt.

Computed for the 4 months preceding the 5th of May, 32s. 5½d.

Computed for the 4 months ending first Wednesday in May, 35s. 8½d. per cwt.—Calcutta Exchange Price Current.

## Shipping Arrivals.

## CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Sept. 11	Rochester	British	David Sutton	Portsmouth	May 18

## Shipping Departures.

## MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Aug. 22	Mahomed Shaw	British	Peter Roy	Calcutta
22	Sophia	British	R. D. Neidham	Vizagapatam
23	La Nancy	French	F. M. Ardler	Mauritius

The Ship *John Bull*, Captain B. Orman, for New South Wales, is expected to sail in two or three days.

*Ships Advertised to leave England in April, May, and June.*

Ships.	Commanders.	Destinations.	Time of Sailing.
Rochester, .....	David Sutton, ..	Bengal, .....	April 15.
Britannia, .....	William Luke, ..	Madras, .....	April 20.
Palmyra, .....	John Lamb, .....	Madras & Bengal	May 1.
Catherine, .....	William Knox, ..	Madras & Bengal	May 1.
Sophia, .....	Wm. Reynolds, ..	Madras & Bengal	Early in May.
Matilda, .....	John Drake, .....	Madras & Bengal	Early in May.
Andromeda, .....	F. G. Steward, ..	Madras & Bengal	May 6.
Fame, .....	Wm. Eastgate, ..	Madras & Bengal	May 10.
Ajax, .....	William Clark, ..	Madras & Bengal	May 10.
Abberton, .....	Lucas Perceval, ..	Madras & Bengal	May 17.
Albion, .....	Charles Weller, ..	Madras & Bengal	May 17.
Woodford, .....	Alfred Chapman, ..	Bengal, .....	May 31.
Fairlie, .....	Thomas White, ..	Bengal, .....	June 1.
H. C. S. Florentine, ..	S. Remington, ..	Bengal, .....	June 16.
H. C. C. S. Kingston, ..	W. A. Bowen, ..	Bengal, .....	June 16.
H. C. C. S. Barrosa, ..	H. Hutchinson, ..	Bengal, .....	June 17.
Royal George, .....	Stephen Ellerby, ..	Bengal, .....	

## Passengers.

Passengers per *Rochester*, Captain David Sutton, from Portsmouth the 18th of May, and Madras the 1st of September.

From England.—Mrs. MacKenzie; Miss A. Booth; James MacKillop, Esq.; Mr. James H. MacKenzie, Surgeon; Messrs. E. Tandy, and J. Gull, Free Merchants; Captain J. Anderson, 27th Bengal Infantry; Messrs. Stephen Williams, Robert H. Miles, John F. Bradford, George Lawrence, Bruce Boswell, and Robert Williams, Cadets; Messrs. Thomas P. Osborough, and James Dewar, Free Mariners.

Miss Mary Carshore, Passenger for Calcutta, died at Sea on the 26th of July.

Passengers per *Mahomed Shaw*, from Madras for the Northern Ports and Calcutta.—To Masulipatam.—J. F. Lane, Esq. Dr. and Mrs. Rogers. To Vizagapatam.—Mrs. Bertram. To Calcutta.—Colonel McLeod.

*List of Shipping in Madras Roads, on the 25th of August, 1821.*

Ship *Edward Strettell*, Captain William Balston,—Ship *Bombay Merchant* Captain John Hill,—Ship *Bombay Castle*, Captain C. Hutchinson,—Ship *Cornwall*, Captain W. Richardson,—Ship *Pacific*, Captain James Moore,—Ship *Hanayoon Shah*, Nacodah A. B. Hassan,—Ship *Fatta Noobaruck*, Nacodah Agumud ben Mahomud,—Brig *Ariel*, Captain J. F. Fish,—Brig *Catherine*, Captain Robert Gibson,—Brig *Ceylon*, Captain L. M. Hansey.

## Nautical Notices.

The Ship *Rochester*, Captain Sutton, anchored in Saugor Roads on the 9th instant, having had a Pilot on board for three days, but being prevented from entering the River before in consequence of light and baffling winds.

The *Rochester* left Portsmouth on the 18th of May, and reached Madras on the 29th of August. Her run from off the Cape was only thirty-one days. She passed the *Thomas Grenville* and the *Wellington* off Madeira on the passage out. At the period of her leaving Madras on the 1st instant, neither the *Orient*, nor the *Anna Robertson* had arrived there.